THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Questions do not arise in view of (a) above.

Production of onion

1358. SHRI SWARAJ KAUSHAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated production of Onion in the country during the current year;

(b) the quantity of Onion exported during this year till date;

(c) the quantity of Onion in Government stocks; and

(d) how does the Government propose to deal with the shortage of Onion during the months of October/November 2003?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The production figures of onion for the current year are yet not available.

(b) A quantity of 203763 Metric Tonnes onion has been exported till 24.7.2003 during the current year.

(c) The Government do not stock onion. However, estimates indicate that about 18 lakh Metric Tonnes of onion is in store with farmers and other agencies concerned.

(d) No shortage of onion is anticipated during the months of October/November 2003.

Rice to A.P.

1359. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Andhra Pradesh Government has requested to grant more rice stocks for continuing the drought relief works; and

(b) if so, the action taken to supply 10 lakhs tonnes of rice for drought relief works under the Sampooran Grameen Rozgar Yojana to continue the drought mitigation activities?